

Linear 1st-order Egs ; Integrating Factor

$$A(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + B(t)y = C(t)$$

A, B, C cannot contain y or y'

if $A(t) \neq 0$, we can put it in the standard form by dividing by $A(t)$

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = q(t)}$$

note this includes $\frac{dy}{dt} = ay + b$

Some can be solved by calculus (again)

for example, $t \frac{dy}{dt} + y = 1$



notice it's $\frac{d}{dt}(ty)$

product rule: $t \frac{dy}{dt} + y \cdot 1$

rewrite: $\frac{d}{dt}(ty) = 1$

integrate with respect to t

$$ty = \int 1 dt = t + c$$

Solve: $\boxed{y(t) = 1 + \frac{c}{t}} \quad (t \neq 0)$

in general, we may not be able to write the left side
as a ~~pro~~ deriv. of a product immediately

for example, $\frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{3}{t} y = \frac{1}{t}$

look at what happens if we multiply it by t^3 (why? explain soon)

$$t^3 \frac{dy}{dt} + 3t^2 y = t^2$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(t^3 y)$$

$$\text{check: } \frac{d}{dt}(t^3 y) = t^3 \frac{dy}{dt} + 3t^2 y$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(t^3 y) = t^2$$

$$\text{integrate: } t^3 y = \frac{1}{3} t^3 + C$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{C}{t^3}} \quad (t \neq 0)$$

that t^3 we multiplied by to make the left side deriv. of a product is called an integrating factor

→ depends on coefficients of terms

→ ALWAYS can find one for any linear 1st-order eq.

let's derive it for $y' + p(t)y = q(t)$

goal: find $\mu(t)$ such that when multiplied to the eq.

the left side is $\frac{d}{dt}(\mu y)$

$$y' + p y = g$$

multiply by μ : $\underbrace{\mu y' + p \mu y}_{\text{want it to be } \frac{d}{dt}(\mu y)} = g \mu$

want it to be $\frac{d}{dt}(\mu y) = \mu y' + \mu' y$ (prod. rule)

so, $\mu y' + p \mu y = \mu y' + \mu' y$

which means $\boxed{\mu' = p \mu}$ or $\boxed{\frac{d\mu}{dt} = p(t) \mu}$

this is itself a linear eq. in μ

this we can solve by basic calculus

$$\frac{1}{\mu} \frac{d\mu}{dt} = p(t)$$

$\mu \neq 0$ otherwise $\mu y' + p \mu y = g \mu$
is $0 = 0$ (doesn't solve the eq.)

$$\frac{1}{\mu} \frac{d\mu}{dt} = p(t)$$

integrate with respect to t

$$\int \underbrace{\frac{1}{\mu} \frac{d\mu}{dt}}_{d\mu} dt = \int p(t) dt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\mu} d\mu = \int p(t) dt$$

$$\ln|\mu| = \int p(t) dt + C$$

$$|\mu| = e^{\int p(t) dt + C} = \boxed{e^C} \cdot e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

constant because e and C are constants

$$\mu = \boxed{\pm e^C} \cdot e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

constant, call it " C "

$$\boxed{\mu(t) = C e^{\int p(t) dt}}$$

ANY " C " would work, so for simplicity we choose $C = 1$

$$\mu(t) = e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

example

$$t y' + 2y = \frac{\cos(t)}{t} \quad y(\pi) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

put into standard form: $y' + p(t)y = g(t)$

$$y' + \boxed{\frac{2}{t}} y = \boxed{\frac{\cos(t)}{t^2}}$$

$p(t)$ $g(t)$

find integrating factor

$$\mu(t) = e^{\int \frac{2}{t} dt} = e^{2 \ln t} = e^{\ln t^2} = t^2$$

multiply to the eq. in standard form

$$t^2 y' + 2t y = \cos(t)$$

if μ is correct, then left side is $\frac{d}{dt}(\mu y)$

check: $\frac{d}{dt}(t^2 y) = t^2 y' + 2ty$ (good)

eg. is $\frac{d}{dt}(t^2 y) = \cos(t)$

integrate

$$t^2 y = \int \cos(t) dt = \sin(t) + C$$

$$y(t) = \frac{\sin(t) + C}{t^2}$$

general solution (C unknown)

we were given $y(\pi) = 0$

$$0 = \frac{\sin(\pi) + C}{\pi^2} = \frac{C}{\pi^2} \quad C = 0$$

so, $y(t) = \frac{\sin(t)}{t^2}$

particular solution

$$\mu(t) = C e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

that C is irrelevant (any $C \neq 0$)

why? $y' + p y = g$

multiply by μ :

$$\cancel{C} e^{\int p(t) dt} y' + \cancel{C} e^{\int p(t) dt} p y = \cancel{C} e^{\int p(t) dt} g$$

so the effect is as if we chose $C=1$ to begin with